Stick Crafting

Go on a nature quest for excellent sticks and rocks, and then get crafting!

Kit contains:

- 2 feet of twine
- 10 pieces of twine

You will need: sticks, rocks, and o ptional scissors or pruning shears (ask your grown-up).

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INSTRUCTIONS

Head outside on a nature quest to find some good sticks on the ground. Choose fairly straight ones in sizes tiny, small, and medium. Let the trees keep their attached branches! Also, pick up five interesting, medium-sized rocks.

Project 1: Stick Star

Step 1. Choose 5 sticks of about the size and 5 wires. (The sticks in the picture are approximately 8 inches long.) You may need to break or cut your sticks to match.

Step 2. Place two sticks together to form an acute angle. Twist a piece of wire around the ends to secure in place.

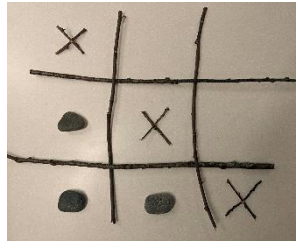
Step 3. Connect a third stick to a loose end of your angle to continue the star. Secure with wire.

Step 4. Weave the 4th and 5th sticks through the structure to complete the star shape. This looks cool and increases stability. Wire the corners in place.

Step 5. Attach the twine to your star to hang it up indoors or out.

Project 2: Stick-Tac-Toe

Step 1. Choose 10 twigs, about 3 to 4 inches long, and 5 wires. You may need to break or cut your sticks to size.



Step 2. Twist wire around pairs of twigs to form 5 X's.

Step 3. Arrange 4 medium sticks into a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Find a buddy and play, using stick X's and rock O's.

Learn as You Explore

You can use use technology to enhance your nature quest. Free apps like Seek by iNaturalist let you identify and learn about the plants and animals you find during your exploration. What kind of tree is that? What is that bird? Which animals left that poop? Take a picture and find out!

Books for More Nature Craft Ideas

- *Read, Learn & Create: The Nature Craft Book* by Clare Beaton
- *Nature Smart: Awesome Projects to Make with Mother Nature's Help* by Gwen Diehn
- *Nature's Art Box* by Laura Martin
- *10-Minute Nature Projects* by Elsie Olson